

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00
CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-12 NSAE-00 PA-01
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FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5869
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY OSLO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USNATO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L OTTAWA 00075

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3
TAGS: NATO, IT, CA
SUBJECT: SELECTION OF NEW NATO DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL

REF: USNATO 73

1. EXTAFF DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY (FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS)
GOLDSCHLAG TOLD DCM JANUARY 5 THAT GOC IS INCENSED WITH
RESPONSE WHICH SECRETARY GENERAL LUNS GAVE TO PERMREP
HARDY'S REPRESENTATIONS CONCERNING CANADIAN CANDIDATE FOR
D/SYG POSITION.

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2. WHEN HARDY CALLED ON LUNS ON JANUARY 5, HE WAS ABLE
TO GET NO FURTHER THAN BRIEF INDICATION OF CANADA'S IN-
TEREST BEFORE LUNS CUT HIM OFF BY SAYING THAT HE WAS
ALREADY COMMITTED TO ITALIAN CANDIDATE AND THAT NOTHING
HARDY MIGHT SAY COULD ALTER THIS COMMITMENT.

3. IN DESCRIBING REASONS FOR GOC'S ANNOYANCE, GOLDSCHLAG

MADE FOLLOWING POINTS:

(A) LUNS APPEARS TO HAVE COMMITTED HIMSELF TO ITALIAN CANDIDATE EVEN BEFORE ITALY HAD MADE SPECIFIC NOMINATION. IN FACT, ITALIAN PERMREP CIRCULATED BIO ON THEIR CANDIDATE ONLY AFTER LUNS HAD ALREADY CALLED MEETING OF PERMREPS TO ANNOUNCE HIS COMMITMENT TO ITALY.

(B) CANADA FIRMLY REJECTS NOTION THAT ITALY SHOULD HAVE ANY SPECIAL CLAIM TO D/SYG POSITION. GOLDSCHLAG POINTED OUT THAT CANADA HAS BEEN LOYAL AND ACTIVE CONTRIBUTOR TO NATO AND SHOULD HAVE OPPORTUNITY FROM TIME TO TIME TO PLACE ONE OF ITS NATIONALS IN SENIOR POSITION. GOLDSCHLAG REVIEWED REASONS WHY SEVERAL POSITIONS ARE NOT OPEN TO CANADA (E.G., SYG, SACEUR, VARIOUS ASSISTANT SYG POSITIONS, ETC.) WHICH MAKE IT ALL THE MORE IMPERATIVE THAT AT LEAST POSITION OF D/SYG NOT BECOME PERMANENT PROPERTY OF ANY ONE MEMBER STATE.

(C) ITALY HAD HELD D/SYG POSITION AT LEAST FOUR TIMES IN THE PAST, AS WELL AS SYG POSITION, AND IT IS NOW SOMEONE'S ELSE TURN. GOLDSCHLAG STRESSED THAT GOC VIEW IS IN NO WAY ANTI-ITALIAN
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BUT IS BASED STRICTLY ON PRINCIPLE.

4. GOLDSCHLAG REMINDED DCM OF EARLIER CONVERSATIONS IN WHICH HE HAD REFERRED TO CANADA'S (INCLUDING PRIME MINISTER TRUDEAU'S DISSATISFACTION WITH HIGH-HANDED WAY IN WHICH LUNS RUNS NATO APPARATUS. GOLDSCHLAG SAID THIS EPISODE IS VIRTUALLY THE LAST STRAW FROM CANADA'S POINT OF VIEW. THEREFORE, GOC HAS DECIDED TO TAKE SOUNDINGS IN SELECTED FRIENDLY CAPITALS (WASHINGTON, BONN, LONDON, COPENHAGEN AND OSLO) TO DETERMINE DEGREE OF SUPPORT FOR PROPOSAL THAT NATO COUNCIL IMMEDIATELY DISCUSS AND ESTABLISH CLEAR PROCEDURES FOR SELECTION OF SYG AND D/SYG, INCLUDING REQUIREMENT FOR FULL DISCUSSION AND CONSULTATION BEFORE ANY CANDIDATE IS CONFIRMED. GOLDSCHLAG SAID INSTRUCTIONS TO TAKE SUCH SOUNDINGS HAD BEEN ISSUED JANUARY 5 AFTER EXTAFH HAD RECEIVED HARDY'S VERY STRONG MESSAGE REPORTING ON HIS ENCOUNTER WITH LUNS EARLIER IN THE DAY.

5. GOLDSCHLAG DECLINED TO DISCLOSE NAME OF CANADIAN CANDIDATE, SINCE CURRENT CONTRETEMPS COULD CAUSE HIM SOME EMBARRASSMENT, ALTHOUGH HE CONFIRMED THAT CANDI-

DATE IS VERY SENIOR OFFICIAL WITH DIPLOMATIC AND DEFENSE
EXPERIENCE. DUEMLING

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